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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/904,280	07/12/2001	Timothy Jon Haataja	2316.869USRE	2070
7590	03/24/2005		EXAMINER	
Merchant & Gould PC PO Box 2903 Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903			CHIANG, JACK	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2642	

DATE MAILED: 03/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/904,280	HAATAJA ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Jack Chiang	2642	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 July 2001.  
 2a) This action is FINAL.                                    2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
     Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
     Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_  
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**CLAIMS**

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Carlson, Jr. et al. (US 5676566).

Regarding claim 5, Carlson shows a cable trough (10) comprising:

A bottom portion (24');

Two upstanding sides (areas of 16-19 above 24) extending from the bottom portion (24') to define a cable pathway;

First and second ends (six receptacles 34) and a central portion (44);

A component support flange (95, 81) extending from one of the upstanding sides (16-19);

An optical fiber cable component (col. 7, lines 56-59) mounted to the component support flange (95).

Regarding claim 8, Carlson shows a cable trough (10) comprising:

A bottom portion (24');

Two upstanding sides (areas of 16-19 above 24) extending from the bottom portion (24') to define a cable pathway;

First and second ends (six receptacles 34) and a central portion (44);

Component support means (95) positioned within the pathway for holding an optical fiber component (col. 7, lines 56-59).

Regarding claim 10, Carlson shows a cable trough (10) comprising:

A bottom portion (24');

Two upstanding sides (areas of 16-19 above 24) extending from the bottom portion (24') to define a cable pathway;

A component support holder (95) positioned in the cable pathway and extending transversely to the cable pathway;

A plurality of cable components (col. 7, lines 56-59) mounted to the component support holder (95), wherein the cable components (col. 7, lines 56-59) are selected from a group consisting of connectors, adapters, splitters/combiners, attenuators, splicings, switches, wave division multiplexers, and amplifiers, the cable components (col. 7, lines 56-59, see also 95) defining an array transversely to the cable pathway.

Regarding claims 6-7, and 9, Carlson shows:

the cable components (col. 7, lines 56-59) are selected from a group consisting of connectors, adapters, splitters/combiners, attenuators, splicings, switches, wave division multiplexers, and amplifiers;

the component support flange (95, 81) extends inwardly from one of the upstanding sides in a direction toward the other side (17, 19).

Regarding claim 1, Carlson shows a cable trough (10) comprising:

A bottom portion (24');

Two upstanding sides (areas of 16-19 above 24) extending from the bottom portion (24') to define a cable pathway;

First and second ends (six receptacles 34) and a central portion (44), the upstanding side walls (17, 19) spaced further apart from each other in the central portion (44) than on each end (16, 18) to define an enlarged central portion of the cable trough;

The enlarged central portion (44) including a downwardly extending exit trough portion (see 44) through the bottom portion (24');

Two upstanding separator walls (59) extending upwardly from the bottom portion (24'), each separator wall (59) positioned on opposite sides of the central exit (44), each separator wall (59) laterally spaced from the respective sides to each define a cable bypass pathway between the first and second ends (six receptacles 34).

Regarding claim 4, Carlson shows a cable trough (10) comprising:

A bottom portion (24');

Two upstanding sides (areas of 16-19 above 24) extending from the bottom portion (24') to define a cable pathway;

First and second ends (six receptacles 34) and a central portion (44), the upstanding side walls (17, 19) spaced further apart from each other in the central portion (44) than on each end (16, 18) to define an enlarged central portion of the cable trough; The enlarged central portion (44) including two downwardly extending exit trough portion (see 44) through the bottom portion (24'); Two upstanding separator walls (59) extending upwardly from the bottom portion (24'), each separator wall (59) positioned on opposite sides of the central exit (44), each separator wall (59) laterally spaced from the respective sides to each define a cable bypass pathway between the first and second ends (six receptacles 34).

Regarding claims 2-3, Carlson shows:

At least one upwardly extending cable storage wall (52, 53) adjacent to the exit trough portion (44) defining a cable storage pathway between the cable storage wall (52, 53) and the at least one of the separator walls (59);

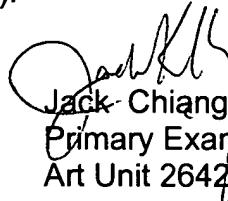
A component support flange (95, 81) extends inwardly from one of the upstanding sides in a direction toward the other side (17, 19).

An optical fiber cable component (col. 7, lines 56-59) mounted to the component support flange (95).

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jack Chiang whose telephone number is 703-305-4728. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. from 8:00 to 6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar, can be reached on 703-305-4731. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Jack Chiang  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2642